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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Noboru SAITO et al.) Group Art Unit: 3762
Application No.: 09/994,696) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: November 28, 2001)
For: PLATELET COLLECTING APPARATUS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed for the fee due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

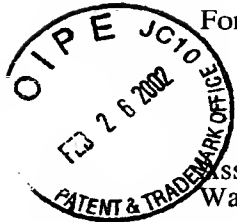
BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

Date: February 26, 2002

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the following information is brought to the
Examiner's attention.

U.S. Patent No. 5,494,592.

U.S. Patent No. 5,607,579.

International Publication No. WO 94/25086. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page one of the present application.

European Patent Application No. 0 992 256. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page two of the present application.

Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-84066. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page three of the present application. An English-language
abstract of this document is also attached for the Examiner's convenience.



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To assist the Examiner in entering the foregoing information into the record, the above-noted documents are cited on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents are enclosed.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the foregoing information and to acknowledge such consideration by initialling, signing and returning the enclosed additional copy of form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER, & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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APPLICATION No.
09/994,696

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

FILING DATE
November 28, 2001

GROUP
3762

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
	94/25086	A1	INTERNATIONAL	11-10-1994		
	0 992 256	A2	EUROPE	4-12-2000		
	2000-84066	A	JAPAN	3-28-2000		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.